



00862.023263

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: Unassigned |
| Tsuneo TAKASHIMA |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Application No.: 10/676,091 |) | |
| | : | |
| Filed: October 2, 2003 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: BEARING ASSEMBLY, STAGE DEVICE |) | November 20, 2003 |
| USING SAME, AND EXPOSURE | : | |
| APPARATUS USING SAME |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the Japanese patent documents are enclosed.

Japanese patent document number 63-20014 is discussed on pages 2 and 3 of the subject specification.

Japanese patent document number 6-6248 also is discussed on pages 2 and 3 of the subject specification and corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,332,977.

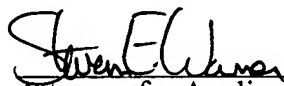
Japanese patent document numbers 61-290231 and 2573502 are discussed on page 7 of the subject specification.

Applicant requests that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2) is believed due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
Steven E. Warner
Registration No. 33,326

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

SEW/kkv

